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N O T E S

ON THE

LIFE OF DR. JOHN HEWYTT,

A LANCASHIRE WORTHY,

BORN AT ECCLES, CO. LANC., SEPTEMBER 4, 1614;

BEHEADED ON TOWER HILL, JUNE 8, 1658.

With a facsimile of a contemporary Portrait of Dr. Hewitt.

Reprinted from "Local Gleanings" in the "Manchester Courier."

EDITED BY

J. P. FARWAKER, M.A., F.S.A.

MANCHESTER

THOS. SOWLER AND SONS, "COURIER" OFFICE.

1877.







*The Portraiture of the Late Reverend and truly Pious
D Iohn Hewit sentenced to death by a pretended high
Court of Iustice set up by that bloody Vsurper
Oliver Cromwell and beheaded June 8: 1658 :*

2

NOTES

ON THE

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DEC 5 - 1904

Divinity School

DR. JOHN HEWYTT:

A LANCASHIRE WORTHY.

Any addition to the long list of distinguished men whom Lancashire may lay claim to, is one that cannot but commend itself to every reader of these columns. Where history has been silent, or where previous enquiries have not only been themselves misled but have in turn misled others, the difficulties in the way of determining the paternity and the exact place of birth of any man whose biography is worth recording, are greatly augmented. Such has been particularly the case with Dr. John Hewytt, one of the most distinguished preachers of the Commonwealth, and one, too, who sealed his loyalty to his sovereign by his death on the scaffold.

In the gallery of pictures at Lyme Hall, in Cheshire, the seat of W. J. Legh, Esq., M.P., is still preserved a fine portrait of a man in the prime of life, bearing the following inscription:—"John Hewitt, D.D., son of Mr. Thomas Hewitt, of Eccles, in Lancashire. He married Lady Mary Bertie, dau. of the Earl of Lindsey; was chaplain to Charles I., and for his loyalty to Charles II. was Beheaded on Tower Hill, 8th June, 1658." A reference to the old Registers for the parish of Eccles discloses the fact that there was at the end of the 16th and the beginning of the 17th century a Thomas Huet, Hewett, or Hewytt (for the name is very differently spelt), who was then living there, and that he was the father of a large family of children. It would appear that his trade was that of a cloth-worker, and this being what has been described as the "family profession" of the Hewetts, he is conjectured to have been descended either from the family of that name of Killamarch co. Derby or of Wales co. York, both of which sprang from the same source, the Hewetts of Kent. Nothing appears to be at present known of Thomas Hewytt's personal history, the causes which

brought him to Lancashire, or the name of his wife. There is no gravestone to his memory at Eccles and it is only the subsequent history of his son which lends any interest to that of the father. This son, the 4th out of 7 sons who were born to him, was baptised at Eccles, Sept. 4, 1614, as appears by an entry in the Parish Register of that date. It is stated that he was educated at Bolton-le-Moors (but no authority is given for this statement) but at an early age he was enabled to avail himself of his father's trade or profession and was sent to Merchant Taylors School, London. In the Register of this school his birth is entered as Jan. 8, 1614—a date difficult to reconcile (unless it has been wrongly read) with the date of his baptism, but the notes that are appended to the School Register recording his after history prove that the two John Hewytts are identical.

From Merchant Taylors School he proceeded to Pembroke College, Cambridge, where he matriculated July 4, 1633. How long he remained here is not clearly known, nor is there any record of his early preferments. We next meet with him in 1643 as Chaplain to Charles I., when the latter was at Oxford, where at the King's wish, Hewytt was created D.D., October 17, 1643. (Wood's Fasti, ed Bliss.) About this time he is stated to have been despatched into Cheshire and Lancashire to "preach up loyalty and reclaim the disaffected." The confirmation of this statement with some account of the work he performed, would be of much value as bearing upon the history of these two counties during the Civil War.

After the King's death he became Chaplain, at Havering House, co. Essex, to the Earl of Lindsey, whose sister he subsequently married. He is believed to have been the author of the epitaph upon his sovereign in the Icon Basilike commencing "So falls," &c., and signed J. H. He was subsequently chosen by the parish of St. Gregory, near St. Paul's, London, to be their pastor, and for that purpose he removed to London, and rented Lord Humson's house in St. Paul's Church-

yard. A writer in *Notes and Queries*, 2nd series, vol. xii, p. 409 (who has brought together many items in Dr. Hewytt's history), says "his preaching was popular and "was attended by the elite of society during the Commonwealth. Cromwell's own daughters the Ladies "Falconbridge and Claypole privately came to "his church and were both married by him. He never "disguised his loyalty to his late Sovereign and used to "excite his auditory from the pulpit to a generous contribution to the exiled monarch's exigencies urging them "to 'remember a distressed friend.' So successful were "his appeals that his youngest brother declared upon one "occasion that he saw the basons brought full from the "church door emptied at the Communion Table and "being taken back were again half filled with the offerings "of the people."

Dr. Hewytt was in the habit of meeting, together with a number of Loyalists, at the house of a Mr. Warren, in Watling-street, where they were in communication with the exiled King, Charles II. This came to the ears of Cromwell, who immediately had Sir John Shepley and Dr. Hewytt seized, and is said to have told the latter that "he was as a flaming torch amongst the "wheatsheaves and that he should die as sure as his "coat was black." Cromwell's feelings towards him were so well known that previous to his arrest his friends had urged upon him to leave London, and had partly arranged for the purchase, with his wife's money, of an estate of about £300 a year in Lancashire, where a living had also been promised him. He, however, delayed in London too long, and was seized and speedily brought to trial. As Sir William Dugdale says (*Troubles in England*, 1658, p. 456), "It being once "more expedient to renew those terrors to the people "he (Cromwell) caused his bloody theatre called the High "Court of Justice to be again erected in Westminster "Hall where for the mere formalitie's sake the persons "whom he did delgn for destruction were brought, the

"one Dr. John Hewet D.D. a reverend Divine, Sir
 "Harry Slingsby, Peter Legh and others—June 1st,
 "1658." Putting on one side Dugdale's bitter partisan
 spirit, there can be no doubt that Cromwell consulted
 both Whitlock and Thurloe as to these trials, and they
 both advised a trial by jury as the more constitutional
 course (Whitlock's *Memorials* and Burton's *Diary*
of Parliament, 1656-1659, Vol. II, p. 473), but Crom-
 well preferred his own High Court of Justice, and
 before that body of 24 Judges the trial began. When
 brought into the court, where Lord President Lisle pre-
 sided, he was arraigned for that he "minding and
 "intending to embroil the Commonwealth in new and
 "intestine wars &c., did together with diverse persons
 "traitorously and advisedly and maliciously hold intelli-
 "gence and correspondence with Charles Stuart &c. . .
 "The prisoner sitting covered while his impeachment
 "was being read, the Lord President commanded his hat
 "to be taken off" (*State Trials*). Hewitt then demanded
 to be allowed counsel to conduct his case, but this was
 refused him. When called upon to plead, he disputed
 the validity and the power of the court to try him, and
 demanded a trial by jury, but in vain. Being constantly
 pressed, he refused over and over again to plead, declar-
 ing, "I would rather die ten thousand deaths than I
 "will be guilty of giving up my fellow freeman's liber-
 "ties and privileges," when the President cried out,
 "Take him away—take him away." At length, after a
 trial which was in fact little better than a legal farce, he
 was condemned to suffer death by being hanged, drawn,
 and quartered, at Tyburn on Saturday, June 5th, but
 Cromwell altered this arrangement and postponed his
 execution for 3 days, and changed the locality from
 Tyburn to Tower Hill.

Immediately after his condemnation he exhibited and
 read in court a very skillfully drawn up plea and demur-
 rer which is printed in the *State Trials*. This plea which
 is said to exhibit "great skill and legal knowledge" was

drawn up by the celebrated Prynne. Whilst under sentence of death his friends exerted themselves to save his life, but much that has been written on this point will not bear examination. The author of the History of Independence, Part IV., states that his wife Lady Mary Huet's (as he writes the name) and his friend's "promises, "persuasions and money and the deep continued and "earnest entreaties of Mrs. Claypole, Cromwell's most "beloved daughter" could not soften the Protector's obdurate heart, "at which unheard of cruelty Mrs. "Claypole took such excessive grief that she suddenly "fell sick, the increase of her sickness making her rave "in a most lamentable manner calling out against her "father for Huet's blood and the like, the violence "of which extravagant passions working upon her "great weakness of body carried her (Aug. 6, 1658) into "another world." This story with various modifications will be found alluded to by Dugdale and also in Whitlock's Memoirs, Peck's Desiderata Curiosa, &c. A writer, in *Notes and Queries*, 2nd series, vol. viii, p. 391, has even gone much further, and whilst commenting upon the fact that his favourite daughter's early death no doubt hastened Cromwell's own end, sees in this only the workings of Providence, and concludes by stating that, thus "Dr. Hewett by his martyrdom was "the unconscious weapon by means of which at one blow "Heaven avenged the crime of murder and the more "venal sin of usurpation!" But these statements will not bear examination, for in the first place, Clarendon, who as a careful and impartial writer may be trusted, says that "either her (Lady Claypole's) death or what "she said affected Cromwell wonderfully. . . She "had several conferences with him which exceedingly "perplexed him, *though nobody was near enough to hear "the particulars*, yet her often mentioning in the pains "she endured the blood her father had spilt made people "consider that she had presented his worst actions to his "consideration." So much for her wild ravings and

calling out against her father for Hewytt's blood. Four days after Dr. Hewytt's execution Lady Claypole wrote to her sister-in-law in the following words, speaking of the plot in which he was concerned, "truly the Lord hath been very gracious "to me in delivering my father out of the hands of his "enemies which we all have reason to be sensible of in a "very particular manner, for certainly not only his family "would have been ruined, but in all probability the "whole nation would have been involved in blood."

EDITOR,

II.

Dr. Hewytt was executed, together with Sir Henry Slingsby, on Tower Hill, on the 8th of June, 1658, suffering, as Dugdale says, "with great equanimity." An account of his execution is contained in Additional MSS. 11,043, in the British Museum. On the night previous he commended his son to Dr. Henehman, Bishop of London, and his two infant daughters to the protection of Almighty God, and passed the night in "an agony of prayer." He desired that his brother-in-law, Mr. Skinner, might have his head after decapitation. Dr. Barwick, afterwards Dean of St. Paul's, attended his friend on the scaffold, and just before he laid his head on the block Hewytt gave him a ring with the motto, "Alter Aristides." His body was privately interred in his own Church of St. Gregory, and on the Sunday following Dr. George Wilde preached a powerful and pathetic funeral sermon, and read a letter written by Hewytt on the 7th of June, 1658, the day before his execution, which, together with his speech on the scaffold, are described as "fine specimens of eloquence, nervous English composition, and pious resignation." The letter will be found printed in Wilson's History of Merchant Taylor's School, p. 762.

His execution caused a great sensation. His funeral oration by Dr. Wilde was listened to by a crowded congregation, and we believe was afterwards printed, and a

curious elegy to his memory, a printed broadside, is still extant. Mourning rings inscribed "Herodes necuit Johannem," were distributed to his friends. (Kennett's Chronicle, p. 373.) Within a short time after his death appeared a small volume, entitled "Nine select sermons preached upon special occasions in the Parish Church of St. Gregorie by St. Paul's, By the late Reverend John Hewytt DD," which was followed in the same year by another entitled, "Repentance and Conversion, the Fabric of Salvation, &c., being the last sermon preached by the Reverend and Learned John Hewyt DD. Published by Geo. Wilde and Jo. Barwick his executors."

Dr. Hewytt is described as being "of middle stature "with a lightish brown complexion having an intelligent eye and a pleasant countenance; an eloquent and "fluent orator delivering his sermons oftentimes without preparation." His language is reported by a contemporary to have been "truly Ciceronian." In Thurloe's State Papers (vol. I. p. 812) he is described as "rather "a Tully than a Catiline" and speaking of him previous to his execution he describes him as one "who hath great influence in the City and County, very orthodox, and to whose church they of the King's party frequently resort."

Dr. Hewytt was twice married. His first wife was the daughter of Robert Skinner, of St. Botolph Aldgate, citizen and Merchant Taylor of London, and by her he had three children—John, his eldest son and heir; Charles, to whom King Charles I. stood sponsor; and a third who died young. Of these, John ultimately became a merchant trading with Barbadoes, where he resided for some time, and Charles died young from an accidental fall from a tree. His second wife was Lady Mary Bertie, fifth daughter of the Earl of Lindsey (who fell at the battle of Edgehill), and by her he had two daughters, Elizabeth and Mary, who, although living at the time of their father's execution, died shortly afterwards, both

being young. Lady Mary Hewytt proved a most devoted wife and stepmother. Although after her husband's death she was twice married (her second husband being Sir Abraham Shipman the brave governor of Chester) she is said to have preserved the doctor's portrait at the foot of her bed, and in her will she left a legacy of £200 to his grandson, the son of her step-son, John Hewytt, the Barbadoes merchant.

On Monday, February 14, 1658-9, Lady Mary Hewytt, petitioned the Grand Committee of the whole House of Commons against the High Court of Justice, for unjustly taking away her husband's life, and in Burton's Diary of the Parliament (from 1656 to 1659) there is, under the date of March 8, 1658-9, a curious reference to a petition of Lady Hewytt for her husband's life, which had been *lost and never presented*! In 1660, Dr. Barwick, one of the executors, and who had attended Dr. Hewytt on the scaffold, went to Breda to have an audience of Charles II., and presented a petition that "Dr. Hewytt's widow, an excellent person, might be taken under His Majesty's care and protection, and that her fatherless son might have some place given him." (Dr. John Barwick's Life, p. 278.) It is said that after his restoration, when John Hewytt was presented to him, Charles declared "that so long as he swayed the sceptre of England none of Dr. Hewytt's family should want."

Soon after this, on the 19th Feb., 1660-1, Letters Patent were issued by which the King "in consideracon of the faithfull service to us done and p'formed by John Hewyt Doctor in Divinity deceased and for other consideracons" grants "to our welbeloved subject John Hewyt sonne of the said Doctor John Hewyt deceased" an annuity of £100 per annum for his life. (Exchequer Records. Pell's Patent Book. No. 18, p. 140.) Some four or five years later however a petition still preserved in the State Paper office was presented to the king by this John Hewytt, who styles himself "the sole surviving son and child of the late murdered John Hewytt Doctor in Divinity," and alludes to this pension of £100

per annum "made about 4 years since, no part of which has been as yet received" and having "a wife and two small children he is greatly impoverished and in debt." This petition seems to have been of good effect for in the Minute Book of the Treasury are these entries: "Tuesday, 26 Nov. 1667, son of Dr. Hewitt to be paid—a warrant." "Wednesday 7 Oct. 1668. John Hewitt Petitioner to be moved in Councell to pay him 100*li*. and that his Pension may be *pd* in ye future."

It is not known when John Hewytt died, but he left a son of his own name, who in his turn presented a petition to Charles II., describing himself as "John Hewytt, student, grandson of Dr. John Hewytt," and in which he states that his parents are dead, and that he seeks "some piece of charitable benevolence towards ye present relieving of his necessities, settling and maintenance of him at the University."—(*Notes and Queries*, 2*a*. vol. viii. p. 519.)

We may be perhaps permitted to say a word or two as to this John Hewytt the grandson of the Doctor. In the History of the Deanery of Doncaster it is stated that the Rev. Mr. Hewitt, who held the rectory of Harthill, near Wales, co. York (the seat of the Hewetts and formerly the possession of Sir William Hewett, *knt.*, who died in 1566), was "grandson to Dr. Hewitt chaplain to King Charles I., who married a sister of the Earl of Lindsey who was father to the first Duchess of Leeds. His father John Hewitt was a Barbadoes merchant." From Yorkshire he appears to have removed to Leytonstone, co. Essex, where he held the living and where he is believed to have died. His eldest son was a scholar of Magdalen Hall, Oxford.

Dr. Hewytt was not a voluminous writer. His "Nine Select Sermons. London, 1658," 8vo, and "A Speech and Two Prayers on the Scaffold. London, 1658," 4to (the latter containing "A Letter to Dr. George Wilde written the day before his execution"), are all that are ascribed to him by Anthony à Wood. To these may be added the volume "Repentance and Conversion

before alluded to and another called "the Soules Conflict" published in 1661, which is said to be by him. In addition to the verses signed J. H. in the Icon Basilike, it may be worth mentioning that one of the Ashmolean MSS in the Bodleian Library Oxford (MSS. 781 pp. 155-6) contains "An Elegie upon the Death of Secretarie Wynwood, whoe deceased the 26th of October, 1617," commencing "Stay heere thou walking flesh that passest by," signed D. Hewitt, which has been ascribed to Dr. Hewytt. Taking the date into consideration, and that it is not likely that he would ever sign himself D. or Dr. Hewitt, instead of John Hewytt, it seems probable that there are no grounds for ascribing this piece to him.

His second wife's niece was the first Duchess of Leeds, and with her he is said to have had frequent correspondence, which, if still preserved, would probably be of much interest as throwing light upon private and social life during the Commonwealth. It is stated that he contemplated the publication of a Church History, but whether any materials for this work are extant is not known.

From an epitaph in the quaint old wooden church of Greensted in Essex, which we are about to quote, it would appear that the Hewytt family continued to reside at Eccles and that in a later generation, another Hewytt attained to some position in the church, and on the inscription erected to his memory it is recorded with pride that his birthplace, Eccles, was also the birthplace of that most celebrated of his ancestors, Dr. John Hewytt. This epitaph is as follows—"Prope jacet Richardus "Hewyt, A.M. Hujus Ecclesie quondam Rector, in villa "Eccles apud Lancastrienses natus, ubi natus etiam fuit "celeberrimus ille Theologicus Doctor Johannes Hewyt "qui ob fidem Carolo 2 exulante nefaria perduellium "sententia securi percussus est. Richardus patruus tam "illustro nepos non indignus Obiit 20. April. A.D. 1724." which may be translated:—Near this place lies Richard Hewyt Master of Arts, formerly Rector of this Church, born in the village of Eccles amongst the Lancashire people, where was also born that most famous John Hewyt Doctor of Theology who for his fidelity to Charles

the 2nd whilst in exile, by the wicked sentence of traitors was beheaded. Richard, a not unworthy nephew of so illustrious a paternal uncle, died 20 April AD. 1724, With this epitaph confirming in so remarkable a manner the true birthplace of Dr. John Hewytt, we may bring this long article to a fitting conclusion.

EDITOR,

III.

In illustration of the two interesting articles on Dr. John Hewytt, which have appeared in your columns, I send you a list of such contemporary publications relating to him that I am acquainted with. The first of these relates to the conspiracy for which he suffered :—

"The Horrible and Bloody Conspiracy Undertaken by many Desperate Persons who to cry up and introduce the Interests of Charles Stewart would have destroyed & burned the City, made an attempt on the Tower, seized upon many honorable personages, and covered all things with Fire and Blood. The names of those speedily to be tryed by the High Court of Justice, are, John Russell, John Mordant, Sir William Compton, Sir Richard Willis, Sir Henry Slingsby, Doctor Hewet. The Names of those apprehended on Saturday, May the 15, and since are, Sir William Leighton, Mr. Brandone, Mr. Manley, Mr. Blunden, Mr. Topham, Mr. Dean, Mr. Friar, Mr. Smith, &c. Together with the gallant Mustring of the Trained bands of the City on Friday May 21. London, Printed for Tho. Vere and Wil. Gilbertson, without Newgate, 1658."

Sm. 8vo. Title, & pp. 14, black letter.

The following are two accounts of the Trials of Sir Henry Slingsby and Dr. Hewytt.

"The severall Tryals of Sir Henry Slingsby Kt, John Hewet D.D. and John Mordant Esq; for High Treason in Westminster-Hall, Together with the Lord President's Speech before the Sentence of Death was pronounced against the afore named Sir H. Slingsby and Dr. Hewet, being the 2. of June, 1658 At which time the said Mr. Mordant was by the Court acquitted. As also the manner of their Execution on Tower-Hill, the 8. of

June following, with the Substance of their Speeches on the Scaffold.—London, Printed in the year, 1658.”

4to. A to D, in four. Dr. Hewet's Trial is contained in sheet B. The manner of his Execution on D. 4.

“The Tryals of Sir Henry Slingsby Kt. and John Hewet D.D. for High Treason, in Westminster Hall. Together with the Lord President's Speech before the Sentence of Death was pronounced against the afore named Sir H. Slingsby and Dr. Hewet, being June 2, 1658. At which time, the said (sic) Mr Mordant was by the Court Acquitted. As also, The Manner of their Execution on Tower-hill, the eighth of June following : With the substance of their Speeches on the Scaffold. London. Printed in the year, 1658.”

4to. pp. 20.

We have next several accounts of his behaviour on the scaffold, his dying speech, &c., as follows :—

“The true and exact Speech and Prayer of Doctor John Hewytt. Upon the Scaffold on Tower-hill, immediately before his Execution, June 8, 1658. Written for the satisfaction of his Friends.” London, 1658. 4to. pp. 8.

“The Speech and Deportment of John Hewit D.D. Late of St. Gregories London, at the place of Execution on Tower-Hill, June 8, 1658, taken by an impartial hand. And, the Substance of his Trial before the High Court of Justice, his letter to Dr. Wilde after Sentence, his Discourses and demeanor on the Scaffold. With an Elegie on the said Dr. Published for the Satisfaction of his Friends. Prov. 10. 7. Memoria justi est benedicta, Nomen autem Improborum putrilum est. Printed at London, the year, 1658.” 4to. pp. 16.

In *Mercurius Politicus* (Nos. 418, 419) will be found an account of Dr. Hewytt's Trial and Execution.

In the year after his death appeared the following which by Anthony a Wood is attributed to William Fryna.

“Beheaded Dr. John Hewytts Ghost pleading, yea crying for Exemplarie Justice against the Arbitrarie, Un-exampled Injustice of his late Judges and Executioners in the New High-Commission or Court of Justice, sitting in Westminster-Hall. Containing his Legal Plea,

Demurres, and Exceptions to their illegal Jurisdiction, Proceedings, and bloody Sentence against him ; drawn up by Counsel, and left behinde him ready ingrossed ; the Substance whereof he pleaded before them by word of mouth, and would have tendred them in writing in due form of Law, had he not discerned their peremptory Resolution to reject and over-rule, before they heard them read. [Texts from Gen. 8, 10.; Exod. 21. 14.; Ps. 94, 20, 21, 23.; Prov. 28. 17.] London Printed in the Year of our Lord, 1659."

4to Title and pp. 18.

Immediately after his execution appeared :

"Nine select Sermons preached upon special occasions in the Parish Church of St. Gregories by St. Pauls. By the late Reverend John Hewytt, D.D. Together with his publick Prayers before and after Sermon. London Printed for Henry Eversden at the Greyhound in St. Pauls Church-yard, over against the Pump, and Tho. Rooks at the Holy Lamb, at the East end of St. Paul's near St. Austins Gate, 1658."

Sm. 8vo. Portrait; Title; Epistle to the Reader, 8 leaves; Table of the Titles and Texts, 1 leaf; pp. 1-217; List of Books sold by H. Eversden, 8 leaves; Dedication to the Lady Mary Hewyt, Relict of the late Rev. John Hewyt, 2 leaves; Prayers before and after sermon, 14 leaves. The Epistles to the Reader and to Lady Hewyt are signed H. E. and T. R.

In the British Museum Catalogue the following publications are ascribed to Dr. Hewytt.

Letter to Dr. Wilde, fol. 1657. [? 1658]

Repentance and Conversion, the Fabrick of Salvation: or the Saint's Joy in Heaven for the Sinners Sorrow upon Earth: being several Sermons. 12mo., Lond., 1658.

A Sermon intended for the Funeral Solemnization of John Hewitt. 4to., 1658.

In 1659 there appeared: "Prayers of Intercession for their Use who Mourn in Secret, for the Publick Calamities of this Nation. With an Anniversary Prayer for the 30th of January. Very Necessary and Useful in Private Families, as well as in Congregations. By Jo. Huilt, D.D. London, Printed in the year 1659." Sm. 8vo, pp. 58, and Contents 1 leaf.

Nathanial Hardy, Minister of St. Dyonis Back-church preached a sermon at St. Gregories, June the 19th, 1658, five days after Dr. Hewytt's execution, which he printed under the title of "A Sad Prognostick of Approaching Judgment; or the happy Misery of Good Men in bad times. London, Pr. by A. M. for Joseph Granford, &c 1658." 4to. In the Preface to this book he speaks out very plainly of the way in which there had been palmed off on the public several Sermons purporting to be by Dr. Hewytt but which were not his:—

"I have too often (and not without regret) beheld those monstrous births which have been forced into the world by the unskilfull and injurious Midwifery of Scribblers, Stationers, and Printers, after the death of their pretended Parents; Indeed, who would not be troubled to see the innocent Names of eminent Divines made (as it were) to do pennance in the Printers Sheets, for the incontinency of their wanton Auditors, who between the Pen and the Press, beget and bring forth a Bastard brood of Sermons which they must Father?

"How greatly that Reverent man of God Dr. John Hewitt (since his suffering death) hath upon this account suffered from his seeming Friends, is obvious to every intelligent eye; witness two Books of Sermons Printed and published under his Name, and (notwithstanding some of them appear to be translations out of French Authours) pretended to be his; which was done too, both against a special Caveat entered in Stationers-hall by his honourable Lady: and Advertisements in print by two of his worthy Friends, viz. Dr Wild, and Mr. Barwick, whose names have been made use of without their privy or consent; to stand in place and shew of Licensors of those Sermons, which they utterly disown, and desire by this means publicly to disclaim."

The number and extent of the publications which Dr. Hewytt's trial, sentence, and execution called forth, serve to show the great interest they excited and the feelings with which his death was regarded.

Bodleian Library,
Oxford,

W. H. ALLNUTT.

IV.

We are much indebted to Colonel Chester, the able editor of the Westminster Abbey Registers, recently printed for the Harleian Society, and whose genealogical collections are so widely known, for the following valuable information relating to Dr. John Hewytt and his wife, Lady Mary Hewytt. We were not able to give the name of Lady Mary Hewytt's third husband, but this Col. Chester has found and has also ascertained the date of her death and that of her second and third husbands. These biographical details will serve to render the account of Dr. Hewytt's life more complete especially as they are taken from the most accurate sources of information, wills and parish registers.

We hope shortly to print some more details relating to this distinguished man and we shall at the same time be glad to know whether any persons are now living who can trace their descent to this most celebrated member of the Hewytt family.

EDITOR.

Dr. John Hewytt of course left no will for owing to his execution his estates were confiscated. In the Registers of St. Gregory's his burial is stated to have taken place the day after his execution, the entry being as follows :—

1658, June 9. Dr. John Hewytt a minister.

The same Registers also contain the burials of his two daughters.

1658, October 20. Mary daughter of the Hon. Lady Mary Hewytt widow.

1660, November 8. Elizabeth daughter of Lady Mary Hewytt widow.

Lady Mary Hewytt married for her second husband Sir Abraham Shipman, but the date of his marriage has not occurred. Her husband, however, died in 1664 or 1665, and his will, dated March 24, 1661-2, was proved July 18, 1665, by his daughter, Elizabeth Shipman, power being reserved to his son, William Shipman,

who are both named as executors, and who must have been his children by a former wife. He left to his son William his estate and interest in a "Light House and beacon" at Dungeness, on the coast of Kent, and desired him to pay his sister Elizabeth £800, but if Elizabeth died then William was to pay "my dear wife" £500. This is the only mention he makes of her, and there is nothing else of interest in the will. From an entry in the Calendar of Wills it would appear that he died abroad, and he says that he was "minded to make a sudden journey to the East Indies."

From the Parish Registers of St. Mary's, Islington, co. Middlesex, it appears that Dame Mary Shipman married for her third husband Thomas Lee, Esq., the entry being as follows:—

1666-7. February 18. Thomas Lee, Esq., and Dame Mary Shipman married.

In the Marriage Allegation preserved in the Office of the Vicar-General of the Archbishop of Canterbury, Thomas Lee's name is spelt Leigh, which, however, is an error, Lee being his real name.

"1666-67, Febr. 18. Thomas Leigh of Newington Surrey Esq., widower [aged] about 40, and the Right Hon. The Lady Mary Shipman of St. Bartholomew the Great London, widow, about 28, at St. Andrews Holborn, or Islington Middlesex."

Lady Mary Lee did not long survive this her third marriage, dying in the early part of 1669, when little more than 30 years of age. In her will, dated September 8, 1668, she refers to the son of Dr. John Hewytt, her first husband, and speaks of him as her "son-in-law," whereas he was in reality her stepson. She describes herself as Lady Mary Lee, late wife of Sir Abraham Shipman, Knt., and now wife of Thomas Lee, Esq., and recites two indentures, dated on or about February 18, 19 Charles II. (1666-7), "between me by the name of the Hon the Lady Mary Shipman and Thomas Lee of Newington co. Surrey Esq. my now husband, and Henry

Hastings, Theophilus Smith, Alban Chaire and Thomas Warren trustees, nominated by me and on my behalf in which I reserved the right to devise by will the several sums of £1500, £500, and £500 named in one of the said indentures and £600 named in the other. I now dispose of the same as follows :—to John Hewytt eldest son of my son in law John Hewytt £200, when 21 years of age; to my god-daughter Mary Smith £50; to my god-daughter Mary Leaven £10; all the residue to the said Thomas Lee my very loving husband” whom she appoints sole executor. In a codicil dated February 21, 1668-9, she adds—“if the said John Hewytt the younger die before 21—then my brothers the Rt. Hon. Robert Bertie and Edward Bertie Esquires and my nephew Robert Bertie Esq. each to have £50; to Mr. Thomas Warren apothecary £100 and to Miss Edith Antill £20; to the poor of St. Gregory’s London £10; to my said brothers Robert and Edward Bertie and my said nephew Robert Bertie each £50 more.” Her will was proved March 2, 1668-9 by Thomas Lee husband and executor of the deceased. In the Probate Act Book she is described as of St. Mary’s, Newington co. Surrey.

Thomas Lee, Esq., appears to have been of a Shropshire family. He was a barrister of Lincoln’s Inn, and lived at Newington, co. Surrey. Several of his children by a first wife were baptized at St. Mary’s, Newington, but these registers being very imperfect, neither the burial of his first wife nor that of Lady Mary Lee are recorded, although it is almost certain the latter would be buried there. His will, as of Lincoln’s Inn, Esq., is dated Dec. 2, 1685, and was proved October 28th, 1687, by his 3rd wife and widow Charity. He was buried at St. Mary’s, Newington, August 3rd, 1687, as “Thomas Lee, Esq., that truly worthy Gent.” and his relict appears to have been buried there Jan. 5, 1698-9 as “Charity Lee, gentlewoman.”

V.

Some few additional notes concerning this Lancashire worthy may not be unwelcome to the readers of Local Gleanings. So far as his trial and condemnation are concerned, the Editor has left little or nothing to be said; but I proceed to give a few extracts from his "Speech and deportment," a copy of which, together with other papers, on kindred subjects, has been preserved to us by that most indefatigable of antiquaries, Anthony à Wood, whom it has pleased a recent distinguished writer in a London magazine to dub as a man whose "horizon of ideas was as narrow as could consist with any education!" The compiler of the "Speech, &c.," speaks in his "Advertisement to the Reader" of "Having been so often importuned to publish Dr. Hewit's Speech and "Deportment upon the Scaffold," "and being unwilling that so great a Person as the Doctor should beronged "by false and imperfect Relations that might "come out only upon Senlster account, wherefore as a further prooffe of the truth, I have "spoken with severall Persons who were upon "the Scaffold, who seeing my Papers subscribed to "them as the most exact."—"The Lords day (June 6) he "employed for the most part in earnest seeking God by "prayer,—the rest of the day being the afternoon, he "passed away in discourse with some friends, who came "to condole his condition, who deported himselfe with "that chearfullnesse, that they nor he need to mitigate "sorrow.—Whilst the Doctor was discoursing with "some Friends, a Woman got accidentally to his "Chamber doore, and in seeming mallicollinesse drew "neare him, and laid her hat at his Feet, saying, I can "never be at quiet when the godly are to suffer. On "Munday morning his Lady came to visit him.—This "being past, he makes it his only work to put of this, "and to prepare for a better life, in which Dr. Wild "added to his indeavours his pious assistance, "the day being spent, Dr. Wilde left him not "without the beames and light of a friends "prayers, and the dayes glory together, but kept

"him company all that night, thereby to make
 "day in his soule, though it were night in the World.
 "(Immediately after came Dr. *Reynolds*, Mr. *Carill*,
 "Mr. *Manton*, Mr. *Bates*, and others, with whose dis-
 "course they were so affected, that that evening they
 "took Coach on *Lud-gate* Hill, and went down to
 "White-Hall to beg his life of his Highnesse the Lord
 "Protector, but that were not granted.)

"On Tuesday morning the time of execution drawing
 "neigh, they spent that part which gave them leisure to
 "prepare for that great work to dye, which time being
 "came Dr. *Wilde*, Dr. *Warmistrey*, and Deane *Reves*
 "accompanied him to the place of execution." Then
 "follows an account of how, being mounted on the scaf-
 "fold, he cast his eye toward the block, and, espying
 "some of the blood of his fellow-sufferer, "he sends
 "up ejaculations to heaven, and then falleth down
 "on his knees and prayed privately a while, and then
 "about as long audibly." In his Speech upon the
 "scaffold he again disputes the authority of his arbitrary
 "judges, and the following passage is worth noting, "It
 "seemes it is a custome in all Courts, (which I did not
 "know before) that if they answer not the third time
 "speaking by the Clerk, that then they are guilty of
 "three defaults, and proceeded against as mute: [I had
 "no such knowledge of the Law.] This advantage being
 "laid hold on, hath brought my Innocence to suffer as
 "the guilty, for they found me guilty of those defaults;
 "and when I would have pleaded, and resolved to begin
 "to plead, I was taken from the Bar. I did the next
 "day make my Petition to the Court in the Painted-
 "Chamber, two Petitions were presented the same in
 "effect; in the former the Title was mistaken: Yet be-
 "cause the Title was mistaken, and no answer was given
 "therefore it was that another Petition was drawn up to
 "the same effect, with a new Title given, (as I remember)
 "presented by the Serjeant at Arms, and one writ it
 "over in such haste, lest they should be drawn out of
 "the Painted Chamber into the Court, that I had not
 "time to read it over, only I subscribed my name, and
 "there was in front of the Petition a word left out, but

"what the word was I know not, but must needs be
 "sensible the trespass was but small, and its hard that
 "a mistake of that nature should take the blood of the
 "Innocent for the guilty; for it was taken so ill, as if
 "I had put an affront and contempt on the Court;
 "And it was thought they would have heard me plead;
 "but because of that mistake, they sent word, I should
 "have my answer when I came into the Court, and
 "my answer I had indeed, which was the sentence
 "of condemnation that adjudged me to this place.—
 "—But I pray God forgive them from the very bottom
 "of my soul." Dr. Hewytt then proceeds to describe
 himself as "baptized to be a member of the holy
 "Catholique Church, that is, the Church of England,
 "which I dare say for purity of Doctrine, and orderly
 "Discipline, till a sad reformation had spoiled the face
 "of the Church, and made it a querle, whether it were a
 "Church, or no I say, It was more purely Divine
 "and Apostolical, than any other Doctrine or Church
 "in the Christian World, whether National, or
 "Classical, or Congregational. And I must tell you,
 "That as I am a member of this Church, so I am a
 "member of the holy Catholique Church, and shall
 "give a most just confession of my faith, both nega-
 "tively and affirmatively. Negatively, I am so a
 "member of the holy Catholique Church, that I abhor
 "all *Sects, Schisms, Sedition, and Tyranny in Religion*.
 "Affirmatively so, That as I hold communion with,
 "so I love and honour all Christians in the world, that
 "love the same Lord Jesus in sincerity, &c."

Dr. Hewytt then in reply to the accusations brought
 against him says, "Here I must come to particulars for
 "a Plot, of having a design upon the City of *London*,
 "for the firing of it. I so much tremble at the thought
 "of the thing that should have been done, as they say,
 "for the carrying on of such a designe, (if my heart
 "deceive me not) had I knowne it, I so much abhor the
 "thing unfainedly from my heart, and as a dying man I
 "am confident I should have been the first discoverer of
 "it: Nor ever had I correspondency or meetings with
 "such persons as would have carried on such a designe.

"It is said likewise, I entertained the Earl, the Mar-
 "quess of *Ormond*; To my remembrance I never saw
 "the face of that honourable Person in my life.
 "It is said, One Lords day I did preach at Saint
 "*Gregories*, and the next Lords day I was at
 "*Brussels* or *Bruges*, and kist the Kings hand,
 "and brought I cannot tell what Orders and Instructions
 "from him. This I shall say, For these three years last
 "past together, I have not been sixty miles from this
 "City of *London*, and I think it is somewhat further to
 "either of those places, than threescore miles. It is said
 "that I kept correspondence with one *Mallory* and
 "*Bishop*. They are persons I have heard of their names,
 "but never in all my life to my knowledge saw their
 "faces; and to my knowledge I doe not know they know
 "me; nor doe I know them at all, but only as I have
 "heard of their names. And whosoever else hath sug-
 "gested such things against me, I know not, but the
 "Lord God forgive them, who is just and mercifull."

Then follows a long prayer in which Dr. Hewytt prays
 for the King as "the posterity—which in Authority
 "ought to rule over, and be above us." "Which being
 "finished, he applies himselfe to the Executioner, giving
 "him three pieces in gold out of a Purse; stripping him-
 "selfe, he being in his shirt, asks his Man for his Waist-
 "coat, who after a diligent search, not finding of it, he
 "tells his master it were lost, upon which the Doctor
 "makes answer, no matter if I lose a Waistcoat, when I
 "am to lose my life, afterward it being found, and having
 "put it on with his Cap, he put his hair under
 "it himselfe, laying himselfe down to sit him-
 "selfe to the block, praying a pretty while;
 "in which time, there were brought a Warrant
 "upon the Scaffold, which did not in the least alter
 "Dr. *Hewit*, having done Prayer, he arises, taking
 "leave of his friends, which occasioned the fall of many a
 "tear, and prepares himselfe for the Block, where giving
 "a sign, the Executioner at one blow and a raze severed
 "his Head from his Body, which was put in a Coffin
 "brought for that purpose, and conveyed to *Hunsdon*
 "House, near Doctors Commons, and afterward enter'd

"with all decency in the Chancell of Saint Gregories,
"London."

"Nature and reason both do plainly show,

"After an Ebb we must expect a Flow :

"Our late Experience makes this maxims good,

"A Flood of Tears succeeds an Ebb of Blood.

"Hewitt's departure makes a Tempest rise,

"His ebbing Body left us flowing Eyes."

From *Mercurius Politicus* we learn that at the Doctor's
Trial there were Lady-Spectators, towards whom he
often turned on each side.

Oxford.

W. H. ALLNUTT.

VI.

Of the family of this firm and popular divine, I
give the following extracts from the Eccles Registers
of baptisms. I begin with the entry of the
martyr himself. It would appear that the family
were not of any standing in Eccles. There is
not even a little extra flourish of the pen which some-
times denotes a person of position, and no remark
attached to any of the entries, except to the divine
himself. Someone has inserted "D.D." over the name
in a style of much more recent date, than the original
entry.

John Hult [D.D.] Sept 4th 1614

William son of William Hult 28 May 1614

James son of Thomas Hult 26th October 1614

Francis son of Thomas Hult 30th July 1620

Robert son of William Hult 6th May 1621

Joseph son of Thos. Hult 22nd February 1623-4

James son of William Hult de Ilmme 20th April 1628

Anne daughter of William Hult of Manton 4th March
1631

Richard son of John Hult 4th March 1638

Robert son of John Hult 16th February 1640

John son of John Hult 9th May 1641.

Ellin daughter of William Hult 1st March 1645

Ellin daughter of John Hult 18th April 1647

Thomas son of Richard Hult 20th January 1650

Thomas son of Richard Hult 12th May 1658

John son of Richard Hewett, 11th Feby 1662

For some years the names of the principal inhabitants
only are given, space being left in the book to fill up ;
but in this portion none of the name of Hult is found.
Eccles.

E. KIRK.



